GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1206
ANSWERED ON:09.02.2017
Suicide by Weavers
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of suicides committed by weavers is on the rise in the country;

(b) the number of suicides committed by the members of weaving community during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide relief from indebtedness of weavers?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): No such report has been received from any State Governments about suicide by handloom weavers.

(c): In order to provide relief from indebtedness of weavers, Government has implemented Revival, Reform and Restructuring (RRR) package Handloom Sector. The package, inter-alia, included waiver of overdue loan & interest of Apex & Primary Weavers Coop. Societies and individual weavers across the country and provided for concessional loan towards their re-capitalization. The coverage of the eligible Apex/Primary Weavers Cooperative Society/Individual weavers, has been completed on 28.2.2014. A total of 39 Apex, 9642 Primary Weavers Cooperative Society (PWCS), 6310 SHGs & 54226 weavers have been covered under the package with financial implication of Rs.1089.90 crore. To ensure easy access to subsidized credit from banks to those handloom weavers and PWC societies, not covered under the RRR package, the Government approved a new component of 'Institutional Credit for handloom sector' in December, 2011 by modifying the said scheme which provided margin money assistance @ Rs.4200 per weaver, 3% interest subsidy

on loans extended by bank with credit guarantee on such loans for 3 years. Under the revised Concessional Credit Component of National Handloom Development Programme the interest subvention is capped at 7%. Status of Weavers Credit cards (WCCs) and the amount sanctioned/ disbursed during the last three years is as under:-

(Amount in lakh)

Particulars	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Nos. of WCC issued	53629	71643	79210	48282
Loan amount sanctioned	17140.96	19428.80	23353.15	14711.92
Loan amount disbursed	7983.13	14679.51	10068.80	10714.13

Now, MUDRA platform has been adopted for providing concessional credit to handloom weavers and weaver entrepreneurs, Weavers MUDRA Scheme is being implemented to cover all handloom weavers for providing the facilities of MUDRA loans to all eligible, non-defaulters and willing handloom weavers. A total of 14985 MUDRA loans worth Rs.79.78 crore have been sanctioned during current financial year 2016-17 (up to 31.01.2017).

In addition, Government of India through Ministry of Textiles is implementing the following schemes/programmes for over all development of Handloom Sector and Welfare of Weavers throughout the country:-

1. National Handloom Development Programme.
2. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.
3. Yarn Supply Scheme.
4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme.

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